Bernie Ashman

SUN SIGNS & PAST LIVES



Your Soul's Evolutionary Path

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What will your birthday reveal about your destiny?

Reach your full potential with an instant past-life reading based on your Sun sign. Internationally known astrologer Bernie Ashman offers an easy, foolproof way to pinpoint behaviors that may be holding you back from a rewarding life of peace and fulfillment.

You don't have to know any specialized astrology terms or concepts to use this book—all you need is your birthday. *Sun Signs & Past Lives* separates each Sun sign into three energy zones. Simply look up the zone in which your birthday falls and find out your innate strengths and the spiritual lessons you need to learn for this lifetime. Most importantly, you'll discover how to transform these precious insights into action.

Learn about your spouse or partner, friends, and loved ones

Bring about improved health and healing

Discover your true purpose for this lifetime

Reverse negative past-life tendencies

Bernie Ashman is a highly respected professional astrologer who has been studying, practicing, and teaching for over thirty-five years. A recognized authority in the field, he has contributed to such astrology magazines as *Dell Horoscope*, *Astro Signs*, and *The Mountain Astrologer*, in addition to astrology software programs used worldwide. Author of *SignMates*, he gives personal readings and conducts lectures. He lives in North Carolina. Visit him online at www.BernieAshman.com.

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About the Author

Bernie Ashman has written for *Dell Horoscope*, *Astro Signs*, *Mountain Astrologer*, and *Welcome to Planet Earth* magazines. He has appeared on a number of television and radio shows, and lectures throughout the United States. He has also written the text for many astrological software programs. His other book include *Astrological Games People Play*, *RoadMap to Your Future*, and *SignMates*.

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Other Books by Bernie Ashman

Astrological Games People Play
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(ACS Publications, 1994)

SignMates: Understanding the Games People Play
(Llewellyn, 2000)

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Introduction

Welcome to a book that encourages you to be your own past-life detective. The wealth of information on the following pages will guide you into your inner landscape. This book is meant to awaken your creative passion to take advantage of opportunities in your outer world in this lifetime. The greater our inner understanding, the more we can experience and express our potential.

Past Lives

We live in a spiritual universe. Earth represents a stage upon which we can act out our potential. There is a key theory or philosophy at work in this book, which is that we have lived previous incarnations on planet Earth. Within us are memories from previous lives.

Our conscious mind does not recall our previous lives, but these memories are stored within us. If our mind isn't doing the remembering, then what is? Call it the soul, higher consciousness, tapping into the Collective Unconscious, or whatever concept suits you. The theory behind reincarnation is that the soul returns to Earth by taking on a new physical body. We get another chance to fulfill our potential. When we die, it's the soul that leaves the body behind and journeys forward, waiting for a chance to incarnate once again.

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Karma and Freedom of Choice

There is a saying that "you reap what you sow." This is often referred to as the law of karma, or the great principle of cause and effect. There are actions and thoughts that defined us in other lives. They have guided us to where we are in the present. Some of these actions and thoughts (or tendencies) were positive influences, while others caused us to veer off-course in terms of growth. These past impressions don't really exert any control over us, though at times their pull can feel immense. The fundamental message of this book is that we have freedom of choice to create new options in our current life.

Evolutionary Path and Past-Life Patterns

Why do we reincarnate? The theory is that we are evolving. If we choose to learn from the past, each lifetime leads us farther along the evolutionary trail. Past-life patterns, or certain repetitive behaviors from previous incarnations, may have taken us down the wrong path. Our creative power is unleashed by confronting worn-out behaviors that no longer serve any useful purpose and by rising above their influences. There is a purpose each of us is trying to fulfill in life. It isn't so much that we are trying to erase our karma or past-life lessons, but the idea is to gain the wisdom and consciousness to make choices that advance our growth.

In a sense, each of us is trying to get attuned to our soul! We are attempting to rise to the level at which the soul operates. This takes self-understanding and reflection, which always comes back to finding emotional and mental balance. The information you will encounter in this book is intended to clarify a key reason for your incarnation. No one person or book has all of the answers, but every once in a while we come across more clues. Think of this book as helping to point you toward deeper reasons for your current incarnation.

It does not matter how many lifetimes we may have repeated a self-destructive or nonproductive pattern of behavior. *We can alter the influence of a pattern—even if it has been repeated over several lifetimes—*

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and heal ourselves in this incarnation if we develop the necessary insight to find our way to brighter life paths.

There are no perfect people, so do not feel bad if you read something in the section for your birthday that seems negative. If we were all completely perfect with no lessons to learn, there would be no reason to incarnate. Don't you agree? Think of overcoming past-life patterns as homework. When you identify a thought pattern that has been holding you back, you are on the way to growth that can transform you. It feels liberating to let go of that negative energy!

What Is a Sun Sign?

Each of the twelve signs of the zodiac is created by the Sun's apparent path around Earth along what is known as the ecliptic. In the course of the Sun's apparent motion along the ecliptic, the Sun passes through the twelve zodiacal constellations, spending approximately thirty days in each constellation's space in the sky. One such revolution through the signs equals a year.

In astrology, the Sun symbolizes our ego. It denotes our willpower and the drive to express ourselves. It's the heart and center of our soul's way of being creative while we are here on Earth. Think of the signs as the psychological and spiritual clothing we adopt in order to pursue our goals and dreams. Our astrological sign is the vehicle through which our consciousness travels to realize our highest potential. *It's important to realize that your Sun sign symbolism is your response to some of your past-life patterns.* Your sign may not encompass all of the past patterns, but it does represent many vital ones to understand. Your Sun sign is more than symbolic of your current life creative self-expression; it contains much of the DNA holding your past-life pattern memory!

The Four Elements

Each of the twelve astrological signs belongs to an element: Fire, Air, Earth, and Water. The great psychologist Carl Jung wrote about four functions that correspond to the elements: *Emotion, Intellect, Sensation*

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(in terms of the physical senses), and *Intuition*. There are three signs belonging to each element.

Emotion is essentially the zeal of the *Fire-sign trilogy*: Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius. To act on impulse is typical of a Fire sign. Processing is not the top priority. A bit of the daredevil spirit and a love of adventure often encompass this elemental tendency. Learning patience is part of the path to wisdom.

Intellect belongs very much in the domain of the communication-focused and perception-oriented *Air-sign trilogy*: Gemini, Libra, and Aquarius. To think first and then act is true of Air. Mental ingenuity is at the fingertips of these three breezy signs. Gaining focus makes life's journey that much more flowing and enjoyable.

Sensations, such as taste and touch, match the experiential needs of the *Earth-sign trilogy*: Taurus, Virgo, and Capricorn. This pragmatic bunch has a "show me" type of demeanor. A desire to know the bottom line before taking chances is true of Earth signs. Discipline and follow-through often come standard with these three. This element is tuned into survival instincts. Adopting flexibility is the path to happiness.

Intuition definitely is associated with the feeling nature of the *Water-sign trilogy*: Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces. These three often see what other signs don't, in terms of life's mysteries. Emotions run deep in this element. Balancing a strong imaging power with a clear sense of reality yields greater fulfillment.

Each of us is a mixture of the four elements, which becomes quite vivid if you get an astrological reading done professionally. Even without a full chart reading, you probably can sense which of the elements are more dominant in your self-expression.

Three Magical Zone Divisions of a Sign

This is going to be a technical explanation of how the signs are shown in the following chapters. If you don't like technical information, feel free to skip this section! As a writer, I am of course hoping you will take the time to read this brief discussion. The explanation will advance your understanding of the material in the sign chapters.

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A sign can be divided into thirds or three sections known in astrology as *decanates*. In this book, the sections are referred to as *zones*. This means there are three zones to each sign. There are thirty days in each sign, which means there are ten days in each zone. Each zone is linked or associated with a secondary sign, *the sign zone ruler*, which might be different than your Sun sign! If you were born during the First Zone, or first ten days, of your sign, you will have the same secondary sign associated with your zone. In other words, if you are an Aries and were born on March 24, you will notice that the secondary ruler of your zone is also Aries. If you were born during the first ten days of a sign, you will have a strong repeating theme in your sign influence. You are a "double" in this sign.

The ruler of a sign zone is always in the same element as the Sun sign. As stated in the element discussion, there are three signs belonging to each element. So for example, if your Sun sign is fiery Aries, your secondary sign will either be Aries, Leo, or Sagittarius, from the Fire-sign trio. If your Sun sign is airy Gemini, your secondary sign will either be Gemini, Libra, or Aquarius, from the Air-sign trio. If your Sun sign is earthy Taurus, your secondary sign will either be Taurus, Virgo, or Capricorn, from the Earth-sign trio. If your Sun sign is watery Cancer, your secondary sign will either be Cancer, Scorpio, or Pisces, from the Water-sign trio.

The past-life patterns are described in each chapter according to each sign's zones. It's easy to locate your own sign discussion because you only need to locate the zone containing your birthday. For instance, someone born on March 24 would look in the Aries chapter and find their own section between the days of March 21 and March 30, or the First Zone of Aries.

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Birth Date	Sign	Zone	Zone Ruler	Element, Energy
3/21–3/30	Aries	First	Aries	Fire, Cardinal
3/31–4/9	Aries	Second	Leo	Fire, Fixed
4/10–4/19	Aries	Third	Sagittarius	Fire, Mutable
4/20–4/29	Taurus	First	Taurus	Earth, Fixed
4/30–5/9	Taurus	Second	Virgo	Earth, Mutable
5/10–5/20	Taurus	Third	Capricorn	Earth, Cardinal
5/21–5/30	Gemini	First	Gemini	Air, Mutable
5/31–6/10	Gemini	Second	Libra	Air, Cardinal
6/11–6/21	Gemini	Third	Aquarius	Air, Fixed
6/22–7/1	Cancer	First	Cancer	Water, Cardinal
7/2–7/11	Cancer	Second	Scorpio	Water, Fixed
7/12–7/21	Cancer	Third	Pisces	Water, Mutable
7/22–7/31	Leo	First	Leo	Fire, Fixed
8/1–8/10	Leo	Second	Sagittarius	Fire, Mutable
8/11–8/21	Leo	Third	Aries	Fire, Cardinal
8/22–8/31	Virgo	First	Virgo	Earth, Mutable
9/1–9/10	Virgo	Second	Capricorn	Earth, Cardinal
9/11–9/21	Virgo	Third	Taurus	Earth, Fixed
9/22–10/1	Libra	First	Libra	Air, Cardinal
10/2–10/11	Libra	Second	Aquarius	Air, Fixed
10/12–10/21	Libra	Third	Gemini	Air, Mutable
10/22–10/31	Scorpio	First	Scorpio	Water, Fixed
11/1–11/10	Scorpio	Second	Pisces	Water, Mutable
11/11–11/20	Scorpio	Third	Cancer	Water, Cardinal
11/21–11/30	Sagittarius	First	Sagittarius	Fire, Mutable
12/1–12/10	Sagittarius	Second	Aries	Fire, Cardinal
12/11–12/20	Sagittarius	Third	Leo	Fire, Fixed
12/21–12/30	Capricorn	First	Capricorn	Earth, Cardinal
12/31–1/9	Capricorn	Second	Taurus	Earth, Fixed
1/10–1/19	Capricorn	Third	Virgo	Earth, Mutable
1/20–1/29	Aquarius	First	Aquarius	Air, Fixed
1/30–2/8	Aquarius	Second	Gemini	Air, Mutable
2/9–2/18	Aquarius	Third	Libra	Air, Cardinal
2/19–2/28	Pisces	First	Pisces	Water, Mutable
2/29–3/10	Pisces	Second	Cancer	Water, Cardinal
3/11–3/20	Pisces	Third	Scorpio	Water, Fixed

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The Zone Energy Fields

So remember, your particular zone is ruled by a secondary sign of the same element. The secondary sign can further be classified according to what I call an *energy field*. There are Cardinal, Fixed, and Mutable signs. The astrological year, unlike the calendar year, begins on March 21 with Aries and runs through to Pisces. The Cardinal signs are the first signs of their element: Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn. The Fixed signs are the second signs of their element: Taurus, Leo, Scorpio, and Aquarius. The Mutable signs are the last signs of their element: Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces. You will notice that each sign has three zones and there will be a Cardinal, a Fixed, and a Mutable energy field assigned to each zone.

Physics would say that Cardinal signs are like centrifugal force, meaning their energies emanate quickly from the center of a circle. They shoot outward in an initiating manner. Cardinal signs have a tendency to stir things up and shake up the status quo. They ask us to go beyond our comfort areas.

Fixed signs are similar to centripetal force, meaning they send energy back toward the center of a circle. These signs tend to compress energy. They are stabilizing and have a maintaining quality. These are very determined signs that show us wanting things on our own terms.

Finally there are Mutable signs, which are like wave motion in physics that transports energy from one place to another. Mutable signs encourage us to be adaptable and flexible. They point us toward anticipating change and preparing for the future.

The four seasons are another way to explain the energy of Cardinal, Fixed, and Mutable sign energy. Cardinal signs launch or mark the beginning of the new seasons: Cardinal Aries introduces spring, Cardinal Cancer starts summer, Cardinal Libra brings fall, and Cardinal Capricorn starts winter. A Fixed sign immediately follows each Cardinal one. These signs deepen our experience of each season. Taurus follows Aries, Leo follows Cancer, Scorpio follows Libra, and Aquarius follows Capricorn. The Mutable signs prepare us for the end of a season and the start of a new one. They signal a changing of the

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guard. Gemini follows Taurus, Virgo follows Leo, Sagittarius follows Scorpio, and Pisces follows Aquarius. The Cardinal signs bring the equinoxes and solstices, the Fixed signs maintain a season, and the Mutable signs take us into a transition of one season into the next.

The past-life patterns for your sign are based just as much on your corresponding zone sign ruler for your day of birth as much as your Sun sign. In other words, if you were born a Leo and are in the Second Zone, ruled by Sagittarius, both Leo and Sagittarius went into the formula for tracing your past-life patterns. It's the combination of both signs that symbolizes your past-life patterns. Once again, if you were born in the First Zone of a sign, you will have the same sign repeating as your zone ruler. You will be a "double" in this sign and this is what was used to identify your past-life patterns.

The Twelve Astrological Signs: Ambassadors of the Collective Unconscious

It might sound strange to think of yourself as a mixture of the twelve signs, but we will be asked by the universe to understand the basic nature of each sign over the span of a lifetime. Why? Because the twelve signs encompass the complete experience in which your soul needs to be immersed. It is true you were born under a particular Sun sign and in a sign zone as described in this book. This does put a special emphasis on that particular sign as a way for you to shine.

Carl Jung coined the term *Collective Unconscious*. He explained that each of us has a conscious mind to use for immediate perceptions. Our conscious mind is made up of our personal nature. In addition, Jung said we have a personal unconscious mind made up of our memories from this lifetime. Some of these memories may have been forgotten or repressed and thus are no longer in our conscious awareness. What then did he mean by the Collective Unconscious? Well, this is where it all gets very interesting for you and me!

The Collective Unconscious is a vast reservoir of information independent of our memory. It is similar in nature to the concept known as the *akashic record*. The akasha is considered a library or universal

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memory bank containing all of the thoughts and events that have ever occurred since the beginning of time. It has been described as a universal computer that is constantly being updated. It is believed that the famous psychic Edgar Cayce had a natural ability to tune into this vast energy system. People with clairvoyant ability have an unusual capacity to tap into the sacred worlds of the akashic record and the Collective Unconscious.

The Collective Unconscious existed before we were even born. This is a collection of *symbols* shared by all of humanity, a product of ancestral experience from all civilizations since the beginning of time. Jung further explained that the Collective Unconscious does not develop individually. Then where does it have its origin? According to Jung, this vast energy system is inherited by each of us. The Collective Unconscious therefore is composed of preexisting forms. Jung named these forms *archetypes*. He said as we grow in awareness, we will become conscious of these original inherited patterns, or forms of thought and experiences. Our consciousness can expand through things like dreams, insight, and exploring metaphysical subjects. In essence, archetypes are the ancient, unconscious source of what we think and believe as people. Although there are collective interpretations of the symbols in differing cultures, we have the freedom to interpret their meaning for our own lives.

The twelve signs of the zodiac are symbols that have their own birth in the Collective Unconscious. Think of them as having archetypal meaning. Perhaps it will sound unusual to consider the signs in this way. The signs offer ways for you to tune into their creative messages. As you read through the various chapters of the book, you may identify with a sign other than the sign you were born under; that's because part of your consciousness is greatly attuned to the energy frequency of other signs as well as your birth sign.

How to Utilize This Book

The sign chapters are designed to give you greater insight into your past-life tendencies. You might enjoy reading your own sign information or

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that of someone else you know. The discussions cover past-life tendencies associated with each sign. As you will see, there is no perfect sign, and each has its ups and downs. There is *light*, or places we use a sign influence consciously and clearly, as though we have learned the lessons it contains; and there is *shadow*, which points to the lessons we have yet to learn. Shadow is not necessarily negative, it just points to a part of ourselves that is hidden or repressed, waiting for us to discover it. Shadow material can become a powerful part of your creative self-expression when you learn how to integrate it productively into everyday life.

It is likely that you will intuitively feel a pull to read another sign's section. Think of it as synchronicity, or a meaningful coincidence! It is as though that sign is calling you to read it now, and that is how this book really works. To the seeker of greater truth, and even to an open-minded scientific thinker, intuition can lead you toward greater enlightenment. Listening to your intuition, that wonderful inner voice, will guide you toward applying the information in this book to your life. You can simply go to your own sign chapter to gain a more personal reading, or you may open the book to any page and see if it speaks to you!

As previously stated, we are more than just our Sun sign. Some readers will know their birth chart and will want to read the chapters for those signs that are accentuated in their chart. What if you have never had your chart done by a professional astrologer? That's okay. Let your intuition guide you to the sections you are meant to read. What you need to read will call out to you.

Ordering Your Own Astrological Chart

If you would like to have your own astrology chart, go to my website for instructions on how to do so: www.bernieashman.com. You will be shown the best way to get this done.

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